

# THE JUNIK BOX

Volume II, Issue No. 3

June - 1967

The Official Publication of the Michigan Token & Medal Society

## FOURTH MEETING HELD

The fourth meeting of the Michigan Token & Medal Society was held in Jackson, Mich. on April 22nd, in conjunction with the Michigan State Numismatic Society's Spring Convention. Alice Moon, who served as Sgt. of Arms, reported twenty-five members and many guests were in attendance.

The program was in charge of P. H. (Jim) Frans. Jim presented a most interesting and informative program on the Tokens & Medals of Alaska. His talk was illustrated with colored slides.

## RESULTS OF DONATION AUCTION

Sixty lots of various types of exonuma were donated to the MTMS for the auction, by fifteen of our members. These fifteen members were: Marie Johnson, David Schulz, W. J. Dimmer, Kenneth Hallenbeck, Jr., Nick Murray, Paul Hoepstine, Gary Krug, A. Ralph King, Alice Moon, Eugene Batema, Steve Penzes, Wm. Marquand, Pete Hartley, Herb Sayre, and Ray Ingalls. We sincerely thank all of these members for their generosity.

A total revenue of \$41.50 was realized from the sale of this material. P. H. (Jim) Frans acted as the auctioneer.

## TOKEN & MEDAL EXHIBIT WINNERS AT M.S.N.S. CONVENTION

The Special Award from the MTMS was awarded to Frances Crooks (Bay City) in recognition of her exhibit of Canadian Centennial medals and related material. She also received the First Place award in the Token & Medal category.

Second Place in the T&M division was present to Jack Bigham (Rochester) who displayed Communion Tokens.

The Third Place award went to Robert Bemis, who exhibited tokens of U.S. presidents and Wooden Money.

Donna Streeter displayed her collection of Wooden Nickels in the Miscellaneous category, and received a First Place award for this exhibit. Randy Streeter received 1st Place in the Junior Division. Several of our other members placed in the other divisions.

Congratulations to all of the above winners.

## NOMINEES FOR 1968 OFFICERS

Short biographies of the candidates who have accepted nominations for an office in MTMS for 1968 will be published in the October issue. Ballots will also be included, together with instructions.

The nominees for the offices received to date are as follows:

President:

William C. Marquand (Muskegon Hts.)

Vice-President (Two to be Elected):

Floyd (Pete) Hartley (Fenton)

Frank Holstine (Fenton)

Marie Johnson (Tecumseh)

Grant Schmalgemeier (Chicago)

Secretary-Treasurer:

Alice Moon (Detroit)

Harriet Nordhof (Holland)

Donna Streeter (Bay City)

Member of the Board: (3 Yr. Term)

Robert Dewey (Muskegon)

P. H. (Jim) Frans (Holland)

Steve Penzes (Detroit)

Herb Sayre (Garden City)

Additional nominations will be accepted prior to August 15th, but please be sure that the nominations are accompanied by the written acceptance of the nominee.



FOUR MTMS MEMBERS ARE CANDIDATES  
FOR THE A.N.A. BOARD

Four members of the MTMS have accepted nominations for the A.N.A. Board. They are: Virginia Culver, Kenneth Hallenbeck, Jr., George D. Hatie, and John J. Pittman. We urge that you give these candidates your favorable consideration when you cast your A.N.A. election ballots (June 24-July 10).

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO  
THE MICH-TAMS

Frank Pivarnick (New Castle, Del.) has donated an interesting item to our group. It is a vase, completely covered with all sorts of items including tokens and medals. This is to be retained by the Mich-TAMS for a permanent collection.

Frank also donated a set of four tiled coasters, one of which has the elongated coin from the 1966 A.N.A. convention imbedded in the center. This set will be featured in our November auction.

Three encased coins have been received from Frank Janczuk (Philadelphia, Pa.) to be included in the November auction.

Bill Marquand (Muskegon Hgts.) donated two 3¢ tickets issued by a Department store in Cedar Springs, Michigan.

We thank the above for their generous gifts.

ROSTER LISTING

The complete listing of our membership is not with this issue. After giving this matter much consideration, it was decided that inasmuch as most of the members received all of the issues published to date, and there have not been too many changes from last year's rolls, it would be repetitious to do so at this time. We have a current membership of 206.

Limited quantities of the back issues of Volume 1 are available. A cost of \$1.00 to cover the original cost of publishing and postage has been set on these. Single copies

of any issue will be sent at a cost of 35¢ while supply lasts.

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

The Editorial Staff believes that the dissemination of information to the membership is a very significant factor in the purpose of our organization. It is our aim that "The Junk Box" serve in this capacity.

The usefulness of this medium however, depends on every member. Why not submit an article that carries interesting and significant information about your collecting activities and findings, exhibit achievements, or information that you have found? What the rest of the membership is doing is of interest to us all! Let us know about it.

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OFFICERS OF THE M.T. & M.S.

President-----Robert K. Lusch  
Vice-President----Robert A. Dewey  
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Full Page-----\$5.00  
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Fourth Page-----2.00  
Small items, not requiring too much space, etc.-----No Charge

NEXT ISSUE - APPROX. OCT. 15

Please get your copy, comments, etc. in as early as possible, so that we will be able to plan accordingly.

Membership in M.T.M.S. ---\$1.00 /yr.  
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN MTMS !



By - Clement F. Bailey (MTMS #174)

Some claim that it started a big mess and most of the mess was unwanted, uninvited, unreal and besides that, useless. Others claim it was a needed function and for the lack of anything else served its purpose well.

The controversial subject was the Office of Price Administration, better known as the OPA, created on April 11, 1941. The OPA we understand, brought up many other ideas as to what OPA meant. Some claimed it represented Over Priced Administrators, Odious Permit Admirals, Obstinate Penny Analysts and Obnoxious Pencil Administrators. Not being acquainted with the process in WW-II, we only know these things by hearsay, rumor and written reports of the times. We spent the entire ration period in the Army. But after going over the reports and reference material, we could see where the OPA was considered a bad operation. They were hard headed about their job, and being a regulatory service not very well liked. Personally as individuals they were great, but collectively as the OPA well.....

Anyhow to live up to the Over Priced Administrators tag, we find that the OPA had nine regional offices, ninety-three district offices, and 5,661 local boards. With that mess of offices it was necessary to have people. So they carried on this work with 63,426 on the payroll and used 235,000 volunteers.

The Office of Price Administration controlled just about everything in WW-II. It started as the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, changed to OPA in August, 1941. There were four men who headed the organization. The first was Leon Henderson from April, 1941 to January, 1943. Next was Prentiss M. Brown from January, 1943 to October, 1943; then came the man most remembered for the OPA, Chester Bowles-- October, 1943 to February, 1946. He moved over to another job and then resigned in June, 1946. Paul Aldermandt Porter from February, 1943 to November, 1946 when the OPA left the scene. It has been noted that no one cried at this demise. Max McCullough under Truman wound up the loose ends.

What did the OPA do? Well, it just didn't sit there and get kicked. They started to set ceiling prices on all civilian commodities. In December of 1941, two days after Christmas, they put tires, automobiles and typewriters on the ration lists. Typewriters? Who said they were pencil pushers. Oh, forgot one other item, bicycles. They then came up with ration books and book number 1 was to be used for sugar and coffee. Sheets of stamps were used for fuel oil and another book for gas. Then they took over the control of time; they controlled daylight saving time to save lighting and fuel and to spread the daylight hours more evenly. At first they used several different types of rationing, unit or specific, point, and certificate or purchasing permit rationing. The ration currency (actually "permit to buy") took the form of stamps, coupons, tickets, certificates, purchase permits and later came tokens.

The first consumer rationing registration took place May 4 to 7, 1942. The books of ration stamps issued were supposed to last 28 weeks. You had to register and give height, weight, color of eyes, color of hair, age and sex. They made no provision for late registrations, or ones who didn't understand the big game. Everyone had to be registered; birth and death reports were checked, so two-day-old babies received books and upon death your book was turned back to OPA.



Gas rationing started first in the east in April, 1942. Guess who made the papers? Mrs. Elizabeth Berry, an employee of a broadcast station on the east coast, went to Jack Felderman's gas station on 36th Street in New York, used her A card and received three units or nine gallons of gas. The first recorded sale in the gas rationing program.

They made regulations about photographing ration stamps and tokens. Tokens that were first to be used February 27, 1944 could be used in advertising to inform the public that they were coming. They could be reproduced in black and white, but in color had to be three-quarter size or one and one-half size. That must have been the silly of the week.

The red point system used with the stamps made the red ones good for grouped meats, butter, oleomargarine, edible fats and oils, cheese, canned milk, and canned fish.

The blue system was used for canned fruits, canned vegetables, fruit juices, soups, baby foods and for a limited time dried fruits, peas, beans, and preserves.

The ration stamps were issued in series by design, color and used numerals or letters. They were valid for a certain period.

Nationwide rationing for coal, oil heating, cooking stoves and shoes was used starting in 1943. An odd one about shoes--they allowed what was called the "grab bag amendment" in 1943. Odds and ends of shoes, broken stock and obsolete stock were sold with no stamp required (July 19-31). But the dandy of them all is the release in July from rationing of baseball shoes and women's evening slippers. To make matters worse when they went with shoe rationing they made the number 18 stamp from book one of the sugar and coffee book valid for shoes.

Gas rationing wasn't started due to the shortage of gas, but due to the shortage of rubber for tires. This was the one critical item on the ration list. Considered was a plan in which any driver caught going over forty miles per hour would have his car seized and purchased by the government for the use of the parts. Another was an idea for rationing spending money. In 1942 \$17,000 in gold was seized in Milwaukee. It was in melted down form but at that time only \$100 was allowed in coin, bullion certificates, etc.

Coffee, tea and cocoa were the next items to be rationed; bananas were scarce, fish limited. All sorts of rubber drives were started including one to turn in all of your old paint brushes.

Do you remember the questions asked when you applied for your canning sugar ration: 1. Names in family and serial numbers of their books. 2. Quarts canned previous year. 3. Quarts in possession of family (fruit that is). 4. Quarts to be canned. 5. How much sugar to be used for jams and jellies.

Even the dogs were in the act. 125,000 were needed for defense as of August of 1942.

Firecrackers are now a thing of the past in most states, but in July of 1942 in Wisconsin they could not be more than two inches in length and no more than 3/8 inch in diameter.

Official notices and newspaper releases from the OPA about rations and ration stamp information was not usually authentic. At least it proved that way early in the war because of confusion and changes that took place.

Want to qualify for a bicycle? Well just answer the next five questions and then hope for the best. 1. Are you going to use it for delivery? 2. Is it a three mile walk or further? 3. A 1-1/2 mile trip from job or school? Can you cut the time by bike? 4. Is the public transportation crowded? 5. What is your circumstance?

Gas ration stickers came in A, B, C and X. The A being the regular civilian user and B and C heavier gas users with X being unlimited.

In the meantime everyone was saving old toothpaste tubes and shaving cream tubes to trade in when they bought new tubes of the same item.

To print the ration books for sugar rationing alone took three hundred carloads of paper.

But status quo was still the word in some parts of the U.S. Tommy Manville was married for the sixth time on April 9, 1942. No ration for weddings, it is evident.

You might be wondering what happened to Germany when the U. S. entered the war. In chronological order from January 7 to April 5, 1942 this is what happened:

Jan. 7 - Nothing to show in windows except what is for sale, dropped the pretense.

Field kitchen meal (one dish) in all restaurants Mondays and Thursdays.

Jan. 16 - Tobacco ration tightened, smokers had ration card. Women over 25, 1/2 ration; men--3 cigarettes and one thin cigar daily (some areas allowed only two cigarettes).

Jan. 17 - No more clearance sales and passenger trains reduced.

Jan. 30 - Eggs allowed in February (1942) 2 per person; also all persons are to make inventory of potatoes.

Feb. 1 - Berlin hotels, no guests for three weeks or better and no rooms for offices. (Coal ration problem.)

Feb. 11 - All fairs and expositions including Leipzig Fair cancelled. (The Leipzig fair is a famous German manufacturers' fair.)

Feb. 19 - Petroleum rationing.

Feb. 21 - Berlin and Breslau all seats taken from the street cars to allow more passenger space.

Feb. 24 - Ration card for alcoholic beverages (that would drive you to drink).

Feb. 27 - Butter ration reduced to 62.5 grams per week (2 ounces and a sput).

Feb. 28 - Ban on women's hats (sounds logical any time).

Mar. 12 - Farmers to spare seeds for Spring planting.

Mar. 15 - All useless aluminum pots, pans collected for the material.

Mar. 31 - Potatoes for Spring planting on the ration list. (Spuds snipped in the bud.)

Apr. 3 - Sunday rest for farm hands suspended for Spring planting.

Apr. 5 - Use wooden shoes until autumn.

Apr. 15 - Persons over 70 could get more than half-pint of milk daily if they gave up 2.2 pound monthly meat ration.



We are now doing research on German rationing and Germany's ration systems in WW-II. Any information will be appreciated. We have researchers in Germany on the same problem.

In the U.S. on September 16, 1942 the first of the four planned books for all purpose rationing were released. Book two was another coupon operation but based on point rationing; spend the points on different grades and kinds of merchandise. All sorts of point charts were issued and each item cost so much money but more important so many points. Families would pool their points in their books and go for bust on certain items. On book two alone they printed 150,000,000 copies; it was a best user but not a best seller.

Another quirk--bicycles were rationed from the start but not junior sized bikes. How about that one?

The main reason for this ration talk is to build up to the big deal of the whole ration program--Tokens. These were red and blue tokens with two different letters stamped into the fiber pieces (incuse).

Tokens were issued to make change. Ration change. Official announcement of the token program started on February 27, 1944 on Sunday. Stated: "One red point red token will be given out in change for red stamps, blue tokens will be given for blue stamps. Each token will have the value of one point. Stamps will become 10 points each. Tear stamps out across ration book pages, instead of up and down pages. Not all stamps will be 10 points each. Announcements will be made." Did you catch that--they will be 10 points each, then not all will be 10 points each. That was the OPA.

A test run was made in Chicago on February 3, 1941. The tokens were given a trial, and the OPA announced a time saving factor of 50% by using tokens when rationed goods are involved. Two hundred retailers watched the demonstration along with many other distributors. Ten housewives were moved past a cashier in five minutes while paying for goods selling at \$16 in the test run. It took 11 minutes 55 seconds for the ten housewives to check out \$14.75 orders using the old ration stamp system.

Under the old system the grocer was not allowed by the OPA to give out stamps in change for point rationed items. Notice the wording "not allowed by the OPA." We doubt if in actual practice this unwieldy system was used, at least if the customers were old established accounts in certain stores. At any rate the tokens took care of this problem.

As to the quantity of tokens manufactured, there appears to be a shade of confusion. Some say that 1,750,000,000 red tokens were made, and other sources claim that only 1,100,000,000 red tokens were manufactured. As for the lesser numbered blue tokens, the same variation exists in the total, some claiming 1,000,000,000 and others 900,000,000. On the one hand you have 2 billion 750 million total tokens and in the second case 2 billion claimed as being fabricated. Why this confusion? Well it seems as though the original plans called for tokens to be a wee bit smaller than a quarter. When the time came to fabricate, they reduced the size to smaller than a dime and doubled the total number of tokens without increasing the amount of material. The cost of the tokens was about \$1.19 a thousand, or a cost of somewhere around \$2,380,000. (That figure was not a token payment in the true sense of the word.) By the way, the size reduction was cause for a protest letter to the OPA.



This protest letter came because some passengers on busses in the big cities such as Chicago, didn't give a "dime" to ride the bus; that is, ration tokens were found in the bus money-boxes. So the end result was a letter to the OPA from the American Transit Association to "register" a complaint. This action is typical of something or other. The riders used the ration points to get a ride, so the bus company complains to the outfit that made the tokens. What about watching the riders, or how come they didn't think about the money size in the first, second or third place? That was the OPA--plan ahead!

When the red and blue tokens were issued, they were collected and used. But a few went the way of most collectible items--into a collection. At the offset, when the first collection was made public in 1946 by Alfred Holroyd of Pennsylvania, the letter combinations found were totaled to be only 29 red and 24 blue for a total of 53 tokens. He requested mail upon the subject at the time. This was published in "Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine." Later on in May of 1946 it is noted in the same magazine, that Holroyd had received many letters, and that apparently his original list was complete. In July of 1944 the same magazine ran a letter from Commander William Brimelow, who claimed that the "two letters were on the tokens to prevent counterfeiting, as the counterfeits could be compared with the original dies." That is the story he learned from the manufacturer.

Later on, another letter combination "M-V" on a red token was discovered, and that is where we stand today--at 54 tokens, 24 blue and 30 red.

In recent times it has been assumed that many more exist in the series. The basic letters used on the tokens are C, H, T, U, V, X and Y. Constructing a square with these letters you will find 49 combinations. But two of those combinations can't be found, C-U and C-Y. Outside the square of letters mentioned, we find tokens WC, WH, WT, WU, and WW; no WV, WX or WY and none of the counter letters have been found in that series CW, HW, etc. We also discover that MV and MM also exist. This now makes a total of seven additional combinations. That seven added to the 47 found makes a total of 54 known combinations. At the present time MV exists to the tune of about 20 tokens. What happened? That is a good question. So far as we know, the tokens originally were boxed in groups of 250 each. That would mean at least 230 of these are still out there in the great beyond.

Another great mystery along with the letter combinations is the color for each combination. As yet, not a ration collector in the business has cracked the reason for the certain letter combinations to be red or blue in color. The company that made the tokens won't talk, and the information is supposed to be still classified. At least that is the current idea.

Want our guess? You're going to get it anyway, unless you skip this section of the article. We think that only two letter combinations are missing. CU and CY have never been reported, and are the only ones not found in the original seven by seven square. We also figure that the WC, WH, WT, WU, MV, MM and WW make up a row by themselves. This would make a total of 56 combinations divided into eight groups with seven tokens in each group. The letter combinations were assigned colors, and this assignment was determined by the so-called four-plus-three method. The number 56 was determined by the first thoughts about ration books. They figured the first books to be good for 23 weeks; double this figure, and you have 56 tokens. The four-plus-three method (four red tokens to three blue ones) added also make one week. We know that 54 tokens now exist, and only one combination



MV was never found in any quantity, but this is no problem to understand, as later on we will also advance the theory as to where these tokens went.

At the moment, let us consider the facts about the four red plus three blue theory. If we go back and pick up the figure 1.1 billion red tokens, and we also consider that CU and CY are red, this would make our total tokens in red equal 32, and the blue tokens would equal 24. Each is divisible by eight, which is our figure for the number of groups of seven that we figure exist. Dividing by eight, we find our ration figure of four red and three blue again staring us in the face. Don't forget we have done this little problem by determining that the missing CU and CY are red. If we then take the figure two billion as being the total number made, of which 1.1 billion equal red, and divide by our mythical 32, we find that they produced 34,375,000 of each combination of red tokens. Dividing 900 million by 24, the number of blue combinations, we find that each blue token exists to the tune of 37,500,000 pieces. All of the frequency ratios and other combinations that have been compiled are really not of much value at the above mentioned rates. You will also note that although the blue tokens are in lesser combinations, they exist in larger numbers per combination.

The reason I used the figures for my division? We found that the other figures would not divide in the case of 24 blue tokens. So we have concluded that the figure 1.750 billion blue tokens is incorrect.

Where are they? In October or November of 1944, Mr. George J. Nealans, Jr., Director of Printing, Distribution and Field Service of OPA, went to Cincinnati where the Osborne Register Company--a prime contractor of the tokens, is based. He was interested in the stored unused tokens. At that time it was estimated, guessed or it was a fact that over a half-billion tokens were in storage. He made the statement, "I felt that they had stood up so well as coinage (?) that they might be used as money in occupied countries."

He then entered into negotiations with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to purchase some of these tokens for use as money in some refugee or DP camps. (November 9, 1943 the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration held its first session at Atlantic City. This international body was organized by forty-four nations to aid countries which had been subjugated by the then Axis powers. Its staff was really at that time an "International Civil Service.") At that time an Associated Press dispatch, datelined Washington, stated that a million tokens were on the way to the Middle East. Nealans was also trying to convince the Netherlands Purchasing Commission to buy some of the tokens to use in the Dutch Far Eastern colonies that were then being recovered from the Japanese. It seems to have been mentioned at the time that blue tokens were involved. We think that the red MV and the tokens that have never been found--CU and CY, made the trip along with several other types such as WC and WH.

Why are MV and MM tokens the only two of the M series? They were tossed in the token pot late in life for confusion factor only. That is our idea. The MM is the upside down version of WW and the MV is a W upside down in combination with V.

If you think that is too silly, go back and read the official announcement about all ration stamps being 10 points, but not all ration stamps will be 10 points. Take up the case of stamp #18 in the sugar book being good for shoes. Take up the "grab bag amendment". Take up the junior bicycle idea. None of them were any sillier than the idea that the tokens are arranged such as we suggested.



To make a short story long, this was the real idea of Executive Order Number 8734.

\* \* \* \* \*

# RATION TOKEN CHARTS

RED TOKENS - 30 KNOWN

BLUE TOKENS - 24 KNOWN

		FIRST LETTER								FIRST LETTER									
		C	H	T	U	V	X	Y	M W		C	H	T	U	V	X	Y	W	
S E C O N D  L E T T E R	C		*		*	*	*	*		C	*		*					*	
	H			*	*	*	*	*		H	*	*						*	
	T		*		*	*	*	*		T	*		*					*	
	U	?				*	*	*		U		*	*	*				*	
	V				*		*	*	MV	V	*	*	*		*			?	
	X				*	*		*	MM	X	*	*	*			*		?	
Y	?		*	*	*	*			Y		*					*	?		
																			WW

Double letter combinations are usually blue, except in the case of MM. We have concluded that CU and CY exist, and are red; we also concluded that MV, MM and WW make up the question mark set under W. We usually combine the two colors into one chart so we make a square of 56 letter combinations. The W and M row are the confusion factors. We still need a reason for the various combinations, and how they were picked to be red or blue. If you like mysteries, you will love Ration Tokens!

At the present time MV is almost non-existent, MM then WC, WH and then the rest are comparatively simple.

For a token as tough as the MV the going price the last time we looked was an offer for \$1.50 to buy. This may have been a sneak offer from "one who knew", suppose? Even if you don't work too hard at trying to find them, you might be able to get most of them without obtaining many duplicates. Some of the harder tokens can be purchased, but try to buy an MV. The things must be rationed!

\* \* \* \* \*

Information Sources: Cincinnati Times-Star; Shawano Evening Leader (1942-1945 Daily Paper); Shawano County Journal (1942-1945 Weekly), Shawano, Wisconsin: Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine; Encyclopedia Britannica Yearbooks and their "10 Eventful Years"; various WW-II newspapers and Official Ration Records when made available.

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Melvin Fuld, Apt. 1D, 6701 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21215  
 "Enclosed in this issue is a short article authored by myself. If this is acceptable, I will make this a regular column. I can write short articles about the National Heroes Series, Merchant Store Cards, and many other subjects."

Editors Note: Bravo, and three cheers for Melvin Fuld!!!



ANNOUNCING: The Publication of a Limited First Edition of

"IDAHO MERCHANTS' TOKENS" by Frank R. Schell

This volume has been two years in preparation, and contains photographs of all the tokens listed. Over 900 obverses and 350 reverses are pictured, together with estimated rarities, metals and sizes. Among the tokens photographed are such rarities as Idaho City, Milner, Silver City, Marshfield, DeLamar and other ghost towns of the old mining cities. Some of these tokens are known at present in only one example.

The edition will be limited to 600 copies, and will be sold on a first come-first served basis only. The author will autograph this first edition. The book will sell for \$5.00 plus postage, but only reservations are requested at present. Do not send any money! Your postcard or letter asking for a reservation will be filed as it is received, and you will be notified after publication, at which time we will accept payment.

This listing will be printed on fine crackled finish paper, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 11, spirally bound to lay flat, and so that a supplement, now in process of compilation, may be added.

Publication is now scheduled for August 1st, 1967.

If you are a collector of tokens, this book will be a "must" for your library since it will be the only listing of Idaho Merchants' Tokens ever assembled.

Send Reservation Cards To:

FRANK R. SCHELL

P. O. BOX 1122

TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301



By - Melvin Fuld, (MTMS #141)

Whenever the writer and his son see or read about a token, we catalogue same. At the present writing we have listed over 572 different types. They start with "Acadmey" and end with "Zoological Gardens". Every month with new literature available we add more, so "around and around we go, and where we will stop, nobody knows". It is the intent of this series to write about types that have been neglected by the American collector. Recently we wrote about "Movie Tokens" in "Coin World", and these articles have started us on a whole series of collectable tokens.

In this issue, we desire to call to your attention "ZODIAC" tokens. In "The Numismatist" November-1959, page 1360, we listed under special calendars Zodiac pieces, and a short description of different Zodiac pieces appears. When we wrote this article we completely forgot that all the "Austrian Mint Calendar Medals" struck at the mint at Wein (Vienna) Austria are based on a zodiac cycle of twelve. There are also other calendar medals based on the zodiac cycle. The zodiac pieces shown in the above mentioned article show only two different styles. Since then we have only seen four additional styles. A very interesting series was published by "The Ushers" of Venice, California, who issued two types.

When your editor asked for articles, we promised some and concluded that "Zodiacs" would make an ideal starting series. There are numerous pamphlets on Zodiacs, and one can find Horoscope booklets in almost any drug store. The writer obtained a most interesting booklet, "Signs of the Zodiac" issued by the Victoria and Albert Museum - London. Copies can be obtained from the British Information Services, 845 Third Ave., New York, New York 10022. Price is unknown, but can't be much. It is a starting place for must reading. We are great believers in "Get the book before the coin", and suggest you go to the library and read up on "Signs of the Zodiac". Then start looking in your own, as well as dealers' "junk boxes". Happy hunting.

We would be happy to hear about your findings, and any help you need, write. It has been felt that a brief story on Signs of the Zodiac would still be too lengthy for our journal, but a starting point as to what you are looking for--here are the signs:

Aries (the ram)	March 21 to April 20 . Of the Planet Mars.
Taurus (the bull)	April 21 to May 20 . Of the Planet Venus.
Gemini (the twins)	May 21 to June 21 . Of Mercury.
Cancer (the crab)	June 22 to July 23 . Of the Moon.
Leo (the lion)	July 24 to August 23 . Of the Sun.
Virgo (the virgin)	August 24 to Sept. 23 . Of Mercury.
Libra (the scales)	Sept. 24 to Oct. 23 . Of the Planet Venus.
Scorpio (the scorpion)	Oct. 24 to Nov. 22 . Of the Planet Mars.
Sagittarius (the archer)	Nov. 23 to Dec. 22 . Of Planet Jupiter.
Capricorn (the goat)	Dec. 23 to Jan. 20 . Of the Planet Saturne.
Aquarius (the water carrier)	Jan. 21 to Feb. 19 -Planet Saturne.
Pisces (the fishes)	Feb. 20 to March 20 - Of the Planet Jupiter.

"For in and out, above, below,  
Tis nothing but a Magic-show,  
Play'd in a Box whose candle is the Sun  
Round which we phantom figures come and go.  
The moving finger writes, and having writ,  
Moves on: Nor all thy piety or wit,  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,  
Nor all thy Tears wash out a word of it."

Omar Khayyam



A FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST (SPECIAL OFFERING TO MTMS MEMBERSHIP)<sup>+6.7.4</sup>

#1 Sesqui-Centennial Exposition 1926 Obv. A man ringing the Liberty Bell "THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL PHILA. / 1776 1926 / 150 YEARS SINCE I FIRST RUNG." Rev. William Penn with Child in Arms, also a view of the Delaware River Bridge which was opened that year, "HOW WE GREW / PHILA. CAMDEN." Quite a nice Numismatic Souvenir from this Exposition; very few others could compare with the detail on this piece. Nickel, 24mm, Gem Toned Uncirculated. \$2.25.

#2 KOSSUTH GAME COUNTER, Obv. Bust of Kossuth three quarters to right, "LOUIS KOSSUTH THE WASHINGTON OF HUNGARY." Rev. Wording in 12 lines, "NOW IN THE NAME OF ETERNAL TRUTH AND BY ALL THAT IS SACRED AND DEAR TO MAN, SINCE THE HISTORY OF MANKIND IS RECORDED, THERE HAS BEEN NO CAUSE MORE JUST THAN THE CAUSE OF HUNGARY!" Gilt Brass, Reeded Edge, 28mm. Bushnell #15, Kurth #66, Rulau #134. Rarity 5 (TAMS Journal Vol. III, #2). Usually found holed at top, and quite worn. Now I offer a Choice XF-AU UNHOLED Specimen of this hard to obtain Game Counter for \$5.75.

#3 KOSSUTH GAME COUNTER, Obv.-Same as last, Rev. is also similar, but a much harder variety. On the Reverse the word "Now" has been lowered slightly, and with this Double Cut. A very interesting variety for the Specialist. Listed as Rulau #134B, Rarity 6, Gilt Brass, 28mm, Choice XF-AU condition, and also another UNHOLED Specimen. \$6.75

#4 KOSSUTH GAME COUNTER, Obv.-Bust of Kossuth three quarters right, "NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HIM THAT WILLS" / in very small letters "KOSSUTH". Rev.-American Eagle "UNITED STATES / THE BIRTHPLACE OF FREEDOM". Brass, 28mm, Reeded Edge. Bushnell #16, Kurth #67, Rulau #135, Rarity 6. Not as nice as the above pair, but still a hard type to come by. Still a nice F-VF, and quite strong, but a light edge nick, which isn't too harmful. Still it's UNHOLED which is unusual.. \$5.75.

#5 MASONIC PENNY, Obv.-"Metropolitan Chapter No. 140 R.A.M. / NEW YORK / ONE PENNY." Rev.-Keystone, Etc. "INSTITUTED 1852" Copper Uncirculated, 30mm. On my recent Price List I had a group of over 240 different pieces listed in as many as five different metals--the response was great, but the complete collection is now owned by one collector. This field is growing fast, and should be considered by all. I forgot to mention that this piece is listed by Wright #252 in his book, "The Mark Penny", which was completed in 1920. Through a lucky purchase, I did obtain a small group of this type, and am now offering these at \$2.00.

PLEASE NOTE-ALL ITEMS ARE POSTPAID.

A FEW OF MY WANTS: Am very interested in Encased Indian and Lincoln Cents that were issued at all World's Fairs and Expositions--especially specimens needed in my personal Collection. Also, Christmas Tokens, Rolled Cents of all types, Miniature medals 19mm. or smaller, and All other World's Fair and Exposition Numismatic Material. Please send Rubbing and price. All letters answered. Thank You.

FRANK E. JANCZUK

2153 SOUTH HANCOCK ST.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19143

(MT&MS #236, ANS, AECA, MANA, TAMS, GENA LIFE MEMBER #32)



By - C. E. Jensen (MTMS #206)

There is nothing that I like to do better on a Sunday afternoon, than to attend a coin convention in New York City. I would like to tell you the events of one such Sunday afternoon, and the adventure that followed.

Being a avid collector of medals, it is not unusual to hear me asking a dealer if he has any medals for sale. The usual response is, "I don't stock them," or "Medals?? What kind??" When a dealer says that, I know he doesn't have the slightest idea of what I am talking about. Still another response is, "Do you collect medals? What for? No investment possibilities, you know. Now coins--that's a different story. Here, I have a nice one that you might be interested in." When I get any of these answers--especially the last one, I just simply say, "Never mind" and walk away.

In looking around, I came to one table where there wasn't too much activity. In looking over his merchandise, my eye caught sight of a half hidden piece. It looked like some type of medal. I asked if I could see the "medal", pointing at a newspaper that was hiding it. The dealer opened the case, and looking rather puzzled as to how it got there, and handed it to me. I gave it a quick glance and said, "How much?" The dealer replied, "How does \$2. sound to you?" "O'Kay, I'll take it", I answered, and handed him the two bucks.

About an hour later, when I was sitting down having a cup of coffee, I took out the medal and began to have a better look at my recent acquisition.

It was heavy and large, silver and approximately 50 mm. A bust of Benjamin Franklin is on the obverse, and around the top the inscription, "Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania" with the date of 1824. On the reverse, at the top, "Reward of Skill and Ingenuity" beneath which was the inscription: "To: WM. DUNLAP / Philad" Pa. / - FOR - / Rockaway Wagond / Spanish Volante / 1845".

I assumed that it must have been some kind of an award, but for what? This I was determined to find out. Who was William Dunlap? What's this 'Franklin Institute'? Is it still functioning, or is it defunct by now?

When I got home that night, I consulted my encyclopedia. (\*) Here is what it said: "Franklin Institute, located in Philadelphia, Pa. is a non-profit scientific and educational institution.

It includes the Fels Planetarium, the laboratories for research and development, a library, and a museum.

The Fels Planetarium projects a replica of the stars and the planets. The laboratories conduct research and development in the physical sciences for private firms and for government agencies, specializing in electrical and mechanical engineering, chemistry, and physics. The library holds more than 160,000 volumes, more than 50,000 pamphlets, and about 10,000 maps. The museum has exhibits that demonstrate the fundamentals and applications of the sciences.

The Institute, founded in 1824, was named for Benjamin Franklin. In 1826, it first published its "Journal of Franklin Institute"--a leading scientific publication in the United States. The Institute grants certificates and awards, including the Franklin Medal, to persons

(\*) World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 6, P. 417.



or organizations for their work in the sciences."

Now I knew a little history behind my new medal, but that didn't answer all my questions. It mentioned awards, but for what? Science? That's a big field! Let's get specific.

The encyclopedia gave an address for the Institute, so I decided to write and find out what I wanted. In my letter I gave a description of the medal, and the questions I wanted answered. (Example: Who was Wm. Dunlap? What did he receive the medal for? Is this type of award still being given out? Etc.).

About three weeks later, I received the following reply from the Institute:

"Dear Mr. Jensen: The Franklin Institute was founded in 1824. Its history is given in a book entitled, "The Story of the Franklin Institute", written by Sydney T. Wright, and published by the Institute in 1933.

Between 1824 and 1858 and again in 1874, the Franklin Institute conducted twenty-seven exhibitions of American Manufactures. The fifteenth exhibition was held in 1845. The "Premiums" awarded were: First Premium, a silver medal; Second Premium, a bronze medal; and Third Premium, a certificate.

William Dunlap of Philadelphia was awarded a First Premium for two exhibits, No. 1537 and No. 1543, a rockaway wagon and a Spanish volante, in the group "Coach Work". (See, "Journal of the Franklin Institute" volume 40, page 394, December, 1845.) In "Webster's Third New International Dictionary" of 1966, the rockaway carriage is defined on page 1965, and volante is defined and depicted on page 2562.

In McElroy's "Philadelphia Directory for the Year 1845" page 98, William Dunlap is listed as a coachmaker, 169 North Fifth Street, and a residence at the Northwest corner of North Fifth and Willow Streets."

The balance of the letter was the closing. This letter gave me a better insight as to what I really possessed--a true piece of Americana!

\* \* \* \* \*

Note: I would like to personally thank Mr. Joseph S. Hepburn, Archives Researcher for the Franklin Institute, for his kind help in the attribution and use of this medal.

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Ed Jones, 1208 E. Main St., Newport, Vermont 05855

"How did I get interested in collecting Tokens & Medals? Well, like many others I started about seven years ago collecting Canadian and U.S. decimal coins, and then while I was serving my three years in the army I sort of let my interest go dormant. When I came back, though, I made up for lost time in my chosen field of Tokens and Medals.

"I think that unlike the decimal currency, tokens are the only chance I have of getting something of which there may have been only a couple of hundred issued, and still pay only a couple of dollars for the lucky find. Although they are not particularly valuable, tokens and medals are often rare and scarce. There is more history in the early tokens of the U.S. and Canada, and you can see the growth of the country through good times and bad. My collecting interests are in foreign coins and tokens and medals of the U.S. and Canada. I am especially interested in Canadian because of the proximity to Canada here in Newport. One of Canada's largest producers of tokens and medals--Canada Artistic Dies, is located in Sherbrooke, Quebec--just forty-five miles from here."



MICHIGAN ONLY

By : Floyd D. (Pete) Hartley - MTMS #18  
& Frank G. Holstine - MTMS #25

The following is a list of a few Private issues of Wooden Money, put out by Michigan merchants and places of business. There are many more, but this is a start. Perhaps some of the other members will send in additional entries to be added to the listing.

City in Michigan:Business or Merchant Issuing:

Applegate	Jose Hardware
Ann Arbor	G & S Coins
Alma	Hagerman's Shell Service
Baldwin	Pattie Drug Co.
Benton Harbor	Luties Coins & Antiques
Benton Harbor	Barnard Drug Co.
Bridgeport	Hoffman's Drug Co.
Big Rapids	Southland Pharmacy
Brighton	Hallers Grill
Clio	Babcock's Supermarket
Coldwater	Peppermint Stick Lounge
Charlotte	Harry's Coins & Stamps
Charlotte	Lowe Bros. & Dad
Durand	Thompson's Drugs
Detroit	Cyril J. Burke
Detroit	Leisure Land
Detroit	Earl Schill Rare Coins
Detroit	Roberts Cleaners
Detroit	Rickert Pharmacy
Detroit	Four Winds Lounge
Detroit	Shores Coins & Stamps
Fowlerville	Tim's Pharmacy
Fenton	1st National Bank
Fenton	Lockes Dry Goods
Frankenmuth	Rau's Country Store
Fair Haven	Foss Drugs
Fremont	Paisano's Pizza
Fremont	Chris Drugs
Flint	Burton Pharmacy
Flint	Brown & Pepper Coins
Flint	Jacks Model Shop
Flint	Holiday Party Store
Flint	U.F.D.F. Radio 91
Flint	Perry Mobil Homes
Flint	Andreae Fashion Fabrics
Flint	Little & Voll Insurance
Flint	Flint Coin Auction
Flint	Flint-Detroit Auto Sales
Flushing	1866 House of Antiques
Grand Rapids	Woodland Cars of Yesteryear
Holly	Mac's Drugs
Holland	Wade Drugs
Kalamazoo	Dollahans Service
Kalamazoo	Creditors Exchange



## Business or Merchant Issuing:

Livonia	Moore Furnace Co.
Lansing	Matthews Ice Cream
Lansing	Nonhop Coin & Stamps
Lansing	R. G. Attwood Coin Store
Lansing	Morheat Co.
Lansing	Schaberg Lumber Co.
Mt. Pleasant	Apothecary Shop
Marquette	Donckers
Minden City	Volz I.G.A.
Manistee	Northwest Music
North Muskegon	Port City Coins
Marine City	Larry Russels Standard Service
Oakland County	C. A. Sparks, Treasurer
Onckama	Anderson's Restaurant
Plymouth	Fiesta Rambler Jeep
Port Huron	Jaycee Home Show
Royal Oak	Able 24-hr. Service
Sand Lake	Bear Paint Co.
Saline	Citizen's Bank
Stanton	Gamble Store
South Haven	Rexall Drugs
St. Clair	Erickson Prescriptions
Southfield	Al Kirby Co.
St. Charles	Hulien Rexall Drugs
St. Charles	Earle B. Clark
Saginaw	The Lester Co.
Scottville	Pinkerton Drug
Three Rivers	Sun Out Rate Drugs
Taylor	Nello's Lounge
Trenton	Trenton State Bank (Parking)
White Cloud	Dave's Pharmacy
Wyandotte	Crowd-er-ette Beauty Shop
Wayland	Nickels Drugs
Yale	Shier's Sundries
Union City	Cersair Travel Trailer
Fruitport	Fruitport District Library
Lake City	Doudna Drugs

[illegible]

## COLLECTING INTERESTS REPORTED BY MEMBERS

Jim Rasmussen, P.O. Box 214192, Sacramento, Calif. 95821

"I am very new in the token hobby, and am very eager for information on tokens--how to evaluate them, how to store them, where to find them, etc. I am most interested in Merchant Trade Tokens, but do collect Tax and Transportation tokens also. I have a few Civil War, and a few very old Canadian tokens that I cannot find any listing on, or any information or value. I would greatly appreciate any information the members could pass on to me."

Alan T. C. Weighell, 86 Ledbury Rd., Toronto 12, Ontario, Canada

"I collect Transportation tokens and tickets--Canadian, U.S. and Foreign."

Dr. Gerald Steinberg, 8107 Eastern Ave., Silver Springs, Md. 20910

"I collect Kennedy exonuma of all types only."



The collecting of trade tokens is becoming increasingly more popular, and more and more token collectors are realizing how interesting they are.

A new catalog of "Trade Tokens of Wisconsin" has recently been published. It was authored by Gerald E. Johnson, who worked for over eight years to compile this listing. Over 4,500 pieces (issued since 1880) are listed. Gerald reported that even though the book catalogs all of the items known to him, he estimated that it was still only about 70% complete.

The catalog is arranged by town of issue, with numbers assigned to each individual item. Full descriptions of both the obverse and the reverse is included, as well as information pertaining to the size, shape and metal used. Another feature of the book is a key index to aid in locating the town of issue for tokens on which no town is indicated.

The catalog contains 224 pages, and is a handy size volume. Several of the more interesting tokens are illustrated. The book is priced at \$5.00, and can be purchased direct from the author: Gerald Johnson, 1921 Chase St., Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. 54494.

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CIVIL WAR TOKEN SOCIETY - ESTABLISHED

A new Society devoted to the collecting of Civil War Tokens has been founded with 180 members as Charter Members. Although the group is dealing in a specialized field, the membership is growing.

The Society will issue a quarterly Journal that will contain editorial copy which has not been available to collectors of this series. Several outstanding collectors have already contributed valuable information.

Until the first election can be held, the following have agreed to serve: Chairman, Melvin Fuld; Secretary, Chris Mackel; Treasurer, Earl Rodgers; Advertising Manager, Ken Trobaugh; Publisher, (To Be Announced).

To enable the publishing of the Journal, the dues for the current year are set at \$4.00 per year. Interested persons may obtain further information by writing the Secretary--Chris Mackel (8024 So. Mulligan, Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453). Applications for membership can be sent to Earl Rodgers, 3532 W. 59th St., Chicago, Ill. 60629.

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COLLECTING INTERESTS REPORTED BY MEMBERS

Frank E. Janczuk, 2153 S. Hancock St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19148.

"My exonuma collecting interests include Civil War Store Cards from Pennsylvania, Elongated coins, all numismatic items from World's Fairs and Expositions (1876-1965), miniature medals 19 mm. or smaller (usually with the Lord's Prayer on the reverse), and Christmas tokens and medals."

D. E. Limpert, 115 Main St., Manchester, Mich. 48158.

"I collect G.A.R. and U.C.V. Re-Union badges."



1. Love-Tokens And Others: Brooch, 1887 Jubilee Half Crown-Enameled, 5 colors. (Looks similar to the one pictured on page 27, December, 1966 issue of "Coin-Age" magazine.) Could be a "Steele" work. No scratches or dings. A scarce one?
2. Brooch--"Choir Guild of Holy Trinity Church". Reverse, U.S.A. Twenty-Cents "S" Mint-mark. Unique?
3. 1777 Netherlands Bread Token, Pewter with copper center. Nice condition.
4. 1829 U.S. Half Dol. - Small Masonic Mark ( ~~XX~~ ) and larger initial "L" in obverse field - called a lifting of metal. Unique. V.Fine.
5. 1803 Brass "Kettle" Gaming Counter - 35.00 size. Pierced for stringing. Name "Kettle" alongside of date.
6. Lutheran Comm. 1530-1630 - John on Obverse, George on Reverse, both with sword. Struck a bit counter clockwise. Silver. Is this the Luther Cent? Some letters double-struck. Thin - size of current half-dollar.
7. Scarce Magician's piece, Kenny's No. 178, Pure Nickel. Bust of Washington, Stars around edge, Comm. 1732-1799. Obv. & Rev. similar. Ex. Fine condition.
8. Detroit - Arthur E. Summerfield, Comm. 1960 - Post Office Dedication, Sept. 29 - 1960, Bronze, 41 mm. Mint condition.
9. Battle Creek Centennial - 1831-1931; Obv.: View of City, Rev.: Log Cabin on River, Indians with Canoe; Bronze, Half-Dollar size, About Mint-Bright.
10. Jackson, Mich. 1829-1929 Centennial, Obv.-2 Woodsmen and Indian meeting, A. Jackson in oval above. Rev.-Bust of Lincoln, between flags, Birth of Republican Party-1854. 1929-A Bronze, 38 mm. 1929-B Bronze, 38 mm, with wide loop and ribbon. Two pieces, Mint condition.
11. Princess Anne, Maryland - Roberts and Webster, Store Card. Reverse, Blank as made. Size of our current cent. Issued about 1910 (?) or earlier?
12. Mabely & Co., Store Card, National G.A.R. Encampment, Aug. 3-8, 1891. Large with Loop. Brothers pictured on obverse; stores pictured on reverse. Goldline (wearing off).
13. Prosperity Token - Roosevelt - Inaugural Medal (1-20-1937). Bust on Obverse; Capitol Dome with clouds behind on Reverse. Metal is White Metal or Nickel. About Half-Dollar size.
14. Civil War Token - Dix, Dateless, R-9, Fuld 214/415. V.Fine cond.
15. Civil War Token - 1863 "Spoot" Type, Ex. Fine Cond.
16. Civil War Token - 1863. (Dot alongside 3 in date). Rev.: "Not One Cent" Wreath has die-break. Token is off-struck 10%, Obverse-- Indian Head, Small beads in bonnet.
17. 1876-S Trade Dollar, Box-Type. Photo of Woman under Mica inside worn a bit, but a nice Love Token.



- I DO NOT CARE TO SELL FOR CASH--MUCH PREFER YOUR OFFER OF MINT-MARKED PEACE DOLLARS IN ABT. UNC. OR UNC. CONDITION. (I AM TRYING TO UPGRADE MY SET). THE REASON I HAVE NOT PRICED ITEMS OFFERED, IS BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT I MIGHT UNINTENTIONALLY OVER-PRICE. FOR INSTANCE, THE FIRST TWO ITEMS OFFERED, I HAVE NEVER SEEN THEM ADVERTISED.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48231

6701 Park Heights Ave.  
Baltimore, Md. 21215



Wanted: Medals from World's Fairs, Expositions, etc. Especially want medals from Columbian Exposition-1893, and St. Louis Fair of 1904. Many, many other wanted. Let me know what you have. Will buy or trade. Please help. Write to:  
C. E. Jensen, 6 Grandview Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y. 10553.

For Sale: A variety of parking tokens. List sent on request.  
A. W. Siebert, 10201 Plymouth Rd., Apt. 15, Detroit, Mich. 43204.

Wanted: Minnesota Chauffeurs Driver License Badges. Write what you have, and price you are asking.  
Ross Thorpe, 181 W. Chalmers Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44507.

For Sale: Elongated Coin Holders.--Write for samples. Token & Medal Calipers-Special \$4.95. Will measure in millimeters, inches, 32nds, and 64ths. Calibrated scale on reverse. Also for sale, 77 mm. 1902 New York Chamber of Commerce Commemorative Medal--Best offer gets it.  
A. A. Rosato, 44 Bank St., New Milford, Conn. 06776.

Trade: I have Transportation, Trade and Amusement Tokens to trade for Trade Tokens of South Dakota and California; Also have advertising medals to trade for commemorative or advertising medals of South Dakota or California. Have Tax Tokens to trade for State Tax Tokens and OPA Tokens I need.  
Jim Rasmussen, Box 214192, Sacramento, Calif. 95821.

For Sale: Canadian medals: Sherbrooke Centennial 1962 bronze (850 struck) \$1.25, aluminum-50¢; Quebec Winter Carnival 1966 \$1.00; Aurora, Ontario Train 1963 bronze die trial-75¢, perfect copies-\$1.25. Free list sent on request. (Will make trades.)  
Edward Jones, 1208 E. Main, Newport, Vt. 05355.

For Sale: I have about sixty different amusement tokens, that I would like to sell or trade for South Dakota or California material.  
Jim Rasmussen, P.O. Box 214192, Sacramento, Calif. 95821.

Wanted: All types of material pertaining to the Columbian Exposition, including post-cards of this event.  
Grant Schmalgemeier, Jr., 1317 W. Eddy St., Chicago, Ill. 60657

Wanted: I collect Michigan Civil War Store Cards, as well as all other Michigan related items. If you have any of this material available, kindly write stating your terms, and description of items.  
Philip Deckebach, 90 Elizabeth St., Lake Orion, Mich. 48035

Wanted: Metal Coal Co. scrip. Advise kind, company, etc. One or 100 pieces. Will also trade.  
Walter Caldwell, Box 29, Payetteville, W. Va. 25840

Wanted: Unload those commemorative medals that "aren't worth anything" to you. Our buying prices will surprise you--list for stamp.  
Cajun Coins, Box 672, Mandeville, La. 70448

For Sale: New Orleans Mardi Gras medals, 3 different \$1.00; 12 diff. \$4; 60 diff. \$17.50. Free price list.  
J. S. Apelman, P.O. Box 145, Madisonville, La. 70447



By - Phillip Pluister

The American Indian has been the device chosen to grace many different types of tokens--Civil War, Centennial issues, Commemorative medals, Elongated coins, and many other types. Perhaps you might be interested in the tale of one particular Indian by the name of Willie Wigwam, who may be the Indian depicted on one of these metallic items.

A long time ago in the Southwestern United States there existed a small, unknown tribe of Indians called the Cluck Indians. Unlike their brave cousins, the Apache and Blackfoot, the Cluck Indians were chickens at heart, and tried at all costs to avoid fighting. There once lived among these cowardly Indians a most unusual brave by the name of Brobroman. (He was going to be called Broken Willow, but his father stuttered). Needless to say, this young brave soon became known as just plain Willie, mainly because the other Indians became tongue-tied when they attempted to call him by his real name.

Willie was no ordinary Indian brave. He was cross-eyed, and because of this he had great difficulty in performing the tasks of a young Indian brave. Once, when he was sent out to get some firewood, he became lost for three days. It seemed that every time he went towards the village, it moved, due to his crossed-eyes. Also, while participating in the Indian Olympics, he happened to shoot Chief Sitting Bull in his rear extremities, and needless to say, Sitting Bull stood up throughout the entire thing!

Well, to make a long story short, one day Willie decided to marry a short, dumpy, three-hundred pound Indian Maiden named Little Cozy Wigwam. But to Willie, she was very thin and petite. (Remember, Willie was cross-eyed!) There was only one problem, and that was that Little Cozy Wigwam didn't want to become Little Cozy Brobroman, so they adopted Wigwam for their last name. The next thing that Willie had to do was to build a house for new wife and himself.

Now this was no easy problem for Willie, because of his eyesight. During this time, Indians did not live in teepees, but in houses made of adobe bricks. So early one morning Willie began on his new dwelling place. He strained hard and long for that entire week before his house was finally ready--but there was one problem. Once again his eyesight had played tricks on him, and instead of his house having straight walls, each of the four walls leaned towards the inside, giving the entire house the look of an ice cream cone. Well, let me tell you, when the other braves in the village came and saw Willie Wigwam's house, they just about died laughing.

"Hey Willie Wigwam! Hey stupid Indian!" they would yell to him, holding their sides and roaring with laughter. Soon word was spread throughout the valley, and Indians from miles around came to see the absurd house of this cross-eyed Indian.

The years passed by, and both Willie and his wife, Little Cozy Wigwam passed away and went to The Happy Hunting Ground. But Willie's house still remained standing, pointing ridiculously up to the sky. As the story was passed down from generation to generation, words were mixed up, and Willie Wigwam's house soon became just Willie's wigwam. All of the Indians referred to the house as a wigwam, and it remained the only type of house shaped like an ice cream cone in the entire valley.



In the words of the Great Indian Philosopher, "Thanks be to cross-eyed Willie. He's given us so much."

[illegible]

By - Clement F. Bailey, MTMS #174

So we received a prize in the box, but don't you think the box is a prize also?

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I'm presently purchasing the new series of Franklin Presidential Medals, the Canadian Provincial Confederation set, plus all Centennial pieces. I'm still very much interested in coins, but see the large field to explore in medals, so will be putting most of my effort there."